



## Unity in Diversity Peace Garden - Nashville, TN, USA

9 April 2014

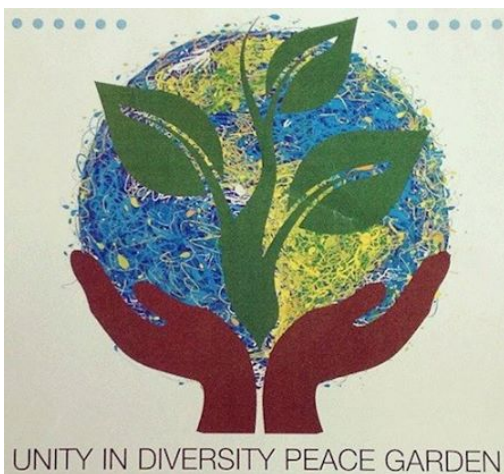
A few years ago, I had the pleasure to meet 14-year old Kiran Thawardas through the SAGE Foundation in India.

Kiran lives in Nashville, TN, USA. He was visiting family in Mumbai and had heard about GDF and was curious to find out more. So, we got talking about the 'Unity in Diversity' project. I remember the excitement in his eyes. Kiran said he was very interested in supporting the project develop, as he saw a huge need for intercultural and interfaith understanding. Not only in Nashville, but around the world.

Well., Kiran's committment has been breathtaking!

Within a few years, he has inspired and attracted many supporters and established the "Unity in Diversity Peace Garden at Scarritt-Bennett Center in Nashville, TN. Along the way, the Nashville team has organised numerous events and brought people together across different cultures and religions, and is continuing to build momentum.

Here is Kiran's latest statement:



[Watch video](#)

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Since I met with Mr. Gorgievski in 2011, the garden has progressed tremendously.

In the past few months, we have grown from four to eight garden beds and averaged close to 15 volunteers per week from all around the world, from those living on the Scarritt Bennett grounds to college students who recently moved from Saudi Arabia.

We have recently had a local news team volunteer at the garden that publicized it on the air. Additionally, Scarritt Bennett held events centering around the garden and the mission of Unity in Diversity including an interfaith blessing of the land, in which major religions were represented to bless the garden for the coming growing season and a culture and food workshop with an interfaith climate vigil this Saturday.

The garden is truly becoming a place where cultures and faiths are coming together to live harmoniously. Photos, videos and information can be found at our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/UnityInDiversityPeaceGardenAtScarrittBennettCenter>.

Thank you,  
Kiran Thawardas

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On behalf of GDF and Unity in Diversity project partners, congratulations! Special thanks Kiran, the Nashville team, and Scarritt-Bennett Center. Your work is inspiring. We are looking forward to joining you for the inauguration.

Peter (Pece) Gorgievski  
Global Dialogue Foundation